

Washington State Credentialing Requirements

Physical Therapist (Chapter 18.74 RCW, 246-915 WAC)

Type of Credential:

License

DOH Contact:

Customer Service Center - 360-236-4700

Credentialing Requirements	Verification Documents Obtained
Graduation from a nationally accredited, board approved school	Official transcript with degree and date posted, received directly from applicant's program. Transcripts not in English must have an official translation. For internationally educated applicants: a credentials evaluation report from a board-approved credential evaluation agency must accompany the application.
Work history (professional training & experience)	Must have complete chronology from receipt of physical therapy degree to the date of application. All time breaks of 30 days or more must be accounted for.
Passing score on the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE)	Verification of a passing score.
State licensure verification	Applicant lists all states where credentials are or were held, including where applicant has applied but a credential was not granted. A verification form must be completed and submitted by the jurisdiction where the applicant is or was credentialed. Applicant sends form to jurisdiction for completion. The jurisdiction sends completed form directly to the department.
Statement about: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• physical and mental health status• lack of impairment due to chemical dependency/substance abuse• history of loss of license, certification or registration• felony convictions• loss or limitations of privileges• disciplinary actions• professional liability claims history	Applicant must answer personal data questions. An appropriate explanation and required documentation must be sent with positive answers. If there is a positive answer to the professional liability claims history question, the applicant must send an explanation of the nature of the case, data and summary of care given, copies of the original complaint, and the settlement or final disposition. If pending, applicant must indicate status.

Additional Information/Documents Required

- HIV/AIDS training – seven hours. If the training was received outside the educational program, then a certificate of completion showing the completion of seven hours must be sent
- Applicants must complete the Online jurisprudence examination.
- Applicants must attain a passing score on the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE)

Process for Approving/Denying Applications

Credentialing staff review the application and supporting documents to make an initial determination on eligibility. Credentialing supervisors approve applications that do not have positive answers to personal data questions, have questionable verifying documents, or are otherwise “red flag” applications. Red flag applications are forwarded to the exception application process for determination by the appropriate disciplining authority. An applicant will be formally notified of a denial and has the opportunity for a hearing.

Renewal Requirements

Physical therapists must renew their license every year on or before their birthday. In addition to submitting the appropriate fee, physical therapists are required to complete 40 hours of continuing education and 200 hours of employment every two years.